

STATE OF VERMONT  
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7081

Investigation into Least-Cost Integrated Resource       )  
Planning for Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.'s    )  
Transmission System    )

Order entered: 8/18/2005

**PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM**

On August 10, 2005, the Public Service Board ("Board") held a prehearing conference in this Docket. The following persons entered appearances: Aaron Adler, Esq., for the Vermont Department of Public Service ("Department"); William Driscoll for Associated Industries of Vermont ("AIV"); Kimberly Hayden, Esq., of Primmer & Piper, P.C., and Thomas Wies, Esq., for Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc.; Sandra Levine, Esq., for Conservation Law Foundation ("CLF"); Benjamin Marks, Esq., of Sheehey Furlong & Behm P.C., for Green Mountain Power Corporation; Morris Silver, Esq., and Helen Fitzpatrick, Esq., for Central Vermont Public Service Corporation; Bernard Lambek, Esq., for ISO New England, Inc.; Harry Abendorf for Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Jack Collins for the fourteen municipal electric utilities;<sup>1</sup> Patty Richards for the City of Burlington Electric Department; William Powell for Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.; and Edward V. Schwiebert, Esq., of Kenlan, Schwiebert & Facey, P.C., for Vermont Marble Power Division of Omya, Inc.; David Grimson, Grimson & Associates.

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1. The fourteen municipal utilities are: Barton Village, Inc. Electric Department; Village of Enosburg Falls Water & Light Department; Town of Hardwick Electric Department; Village of Hyde Park Electric Department; Village of Jacksonville Electric Company; Village of Johnson Electric Department; Village of Ludlow Electric Light Department; Village of Lyndonville Electric Department; Village of Morrisville Water & Light Department; Village of Northfield Electric Department; Village of Orleans Electric Department; Town of Readsboro Electric Light Department; Town of Stowe Electric Department; and Swanton Village Inc. Electric Department.

At the prehearing conference, we granted AIV's motion to intervene.<sup>2</sup> We also granted CLF's request for an enlargement of time to file an intervention motion, and granted CLF permissive intervention.

After some discussion, the parties agreed on the following general outline for proceeding in this Docket. An initial phase will be designed to provide the parties with information useful for this proceeding; toward this end, a steering committee consisting of representatives of some of the parties will work with a Board staff person to develop a series of informational workshops. During the initial phase, the parties will also seek to reach agreement for a process for subsequent negotiations.

The second phase of the proceeding will be a three-month period for facilitated negotiations among the parties, commencing October 1, 2005. We established August 19, 2005, as the deadline for parties to file a proposed scope of work for the facilitator, and a list of potential candidates to serve as facilitator. We also determined that we would hold a status conference approximately halfway through the negotiation period. We tentatively scheduled the status conference for November 9, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. (to be confirmed by subsequent notice).

In the July 20, 2005, Order opening this investigation, we included a preliminary list of specific issues to be resolved in this proceeding. At the prehearing conference, we established August 31, 2005, as the deadline for parties to file comments on these issues. In their comments, parties should describe any proposed changes to the preliminary list of issues. The comments should also identify any issues on which the parties believe that they will be unable to reach agreement (in whole or in part), any issues that need early resolution, and any issues for which we should establish a track for litigation separate from the negotiation process.

SO ORDERED.

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2. Although not specified in our bench ruling, we are granting AIV permissive intervention, not intervention as of right.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 18th day of August, 2005.

<u>s/ James Volz</u>	)	
	)	PUBLIC SERVICE
	)	
<u>s/ David C. Coen</u>	)	BOARD
	)	
	)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/ John D. Burke</u>	)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: August 18, 2005

ATTEST: s/ Susan M. Hudson  
Clerk of the Board

*NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: Clerk@psb.state.vt.us)*